



THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

JOHN L. HILL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 3, 1975

The Honorable Vivian Robertson
Tax Assessor-Collector
La Pryor Independent School District
La Pryor, Texas 78872

Open Records Decision No. 76

Re: Whether school tax-assessor's rendition book is public information.

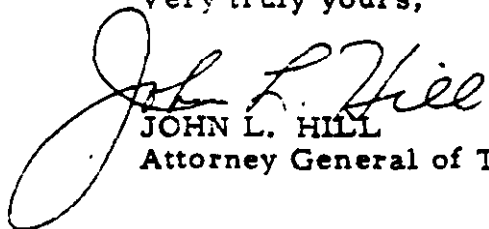
Dear Ms. Robertson:

You ask whether a school district tax assessor-collector's rendition book is open to public inspection under the Open Records Act, article 6252-17a, V. T. C. S.

All information gathered by a governmental body is public unless it falls within one of the exceptions set out in section 3 of the Act. The only exception which might apply to except such records from disclosure is section 3(a) 1, information deemed confidential by law. But we know of no law making such tax assessor-collector rendition books confidential. Moreover, article 7219, V. T. C. S., expressly provides that similar books shall be available for public inspection. It is our view that school district assessor-collector rendition books are public information.

You ask whether a person requesting inspection of such records must give a reason for his request. Section 5(b) of the Open Records Act precludes the custodian from making any inquiry of the requestor beyond that necessary to establish proper identification and the public records being requested.

Very truly yours,


JOHN L. HILL
Attorney General of Texas

APPROVED:


DAVID M. KENDALL, First Assistant


C. ROBERT HEATH, Chairman
Opinion Committee